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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (ORIGINAL) A system for directly measuring a magnetostriction value of a magnetoresistive element, the system comprising:
  - a fixture for receiving a substrate carrying one or more magnetoresistive elements;
  - a magnet assembly for applying a first magnetic field parallel to the substrate, and for applying a magnetic alternating field perpendicular to the substrate and parallel to magnetoresistive layers of the elements;
  - a mechanism for applying a mechanical stress to the substrate, the stress being oriented parallel to the substrate; and
  - a measuring subsystem for measuring a signal from at least one of the magnetoresistive elements.
2. (ORIGINAL) A system according to claim 1, wherein the substrate is a row or a wafer.
3. (ORIGINAL) A system according to claim 2, wherein the row or wafer carries a plurality of the magnetoresistive elements.
4. (ORIGINAL) A system according to claim 1, wherein the first magnetic field is a DC field.